

April Meetings

Dates & Times:

Matinee, 2:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 9, 1980

Evenings, 8:00 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday, April 9 and 10, 1980

Place:

May Treat Morrison Auditorium

Speaker:

Richard Ellis

Subject:

"A Whale Painter in Patagonia"

The Academy is pleased to welcome back Richard Ellis who took us along on his "Adventures of a Whale Painter" in January of '79. This month Ellis, one of this country's most talented painters of marine natural history subjects, takes us to Patagonia to share the high point of his whale watching/painting career. It was here at Peninsula Valdes off the east coast of Argentina that he was able to swim with and photograph southern right whales. In addition to these magnificent mammals he was able to study and photograph dusky dolphins and southern sea lions underwater and various other fauna of the area including penguins, elephant seals, killer whales, plus numerous sea birds and land animals.

Richard Ellis' paintings of great whales first appeared in *Audubon Magazine* and are considered the most accurate and moving color portraits of whales ever painted. His originals hang in many private collections and institutions and he has been given one-man shows at such museums as South Street Seaport, The New Bedford Whaling Museum, Mystic Seaport and at the American Museum of Natural History. He has traveled to many parts of the world in search of his subjects and you will hear about his early trips and his latest adventure to one of the last unspoiled areas on this earth where he was able to get a close-up look at one of the world's rarest whales.

Join Richard Ellis in "Whale Painter in Patagonia" this April 9 or 10. As usual your membership card admits you through the front entrance of the Academy for the evening presentations and through both Cowell Hall and Wattis Hall entrances for

the matinee meeting. Please be prepared to show your membership card at the entrance to the auditorium for the afternoon meeting when the rest of the museum is open to the general public. For the evening lectures be sure to park in front of the museum on the Music Concourse. For your comfort and safety an armed guard will be on duty for all evening Academy functions until the new lighting system being installed by the City is completed.

Special Exhibits

The Ancestors: Native Artisans of the

Americas with its dazzling array of over 300 works of art from 6 native American cultures, continues in the Peterson-McBean Gallery. The cultures and artisans represented are:

- Sioux painter of the Great Plains
- Karaja featherworker of Brazil
- Haida carver of the Northwest Coast
- Pomo basketmaker of northern California
- pre-Columbian potter of the American Southeast
- Araucanian weaver of Chile

The Ancestors will be on display through August 31, 1980 and comes to us from the Museum of the American Indian in New York. Major support for **The Ancestors** has been provided by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. (See "Living Arts & Lectures" in this **Newletter** for more information on **The Ancestors**).

Woven Treasures: The Clay P. Bedford Indian Basket Collection will open on April 17 in the newly renovated Wattis Gallery. Cases have been changed and mirrors added to give the gallery depth and to provide a more dramatic setting for long-term, temporary anthropological exhibits.

Woven Treasures introduces a small but rich portion of the basket collection of Mr. Clay P. Bedford. The recent collection was begun when three baskets, collected by Mr. Bedford's mother, Lettie Clay Bedford, came to light. Although he has collected baskets from many areas, he has selected examples for this exhibit from the western corridor of North America and all the baskets focus upon excellence in technological skill. **Woven Treasures** will run through October 19. (See "Living Arts and lectures" for information on basketmaking).

Other temporary exhibits include, **Underwater Explorations**, photos and underwater camera equipment designed to inform the public about the protected underwater parks and reserves of California's coast; and **Monumental Stone Carvings of the Ancient Maya**, photos by Rufus Diamant.

Special Note: Watch your May Newsletter for information on the Academy's own special traveling exhibit, "Hopi Kachina: Spirit of Life", opening May 22.

Morrison Planetarium

Star Death — The Birth of Black Holes continues in the Morrison Planetarium with an entertaining and informative journey into outer space to learn about the phenomena which are the subject of serious scientific study and popular science fiction as well. What are black holes? Tunnels to the future? Giant vacuums which absorb everything in their paths? Find out each weekday at 2:00 p.m. and on weekends at 12:30, 2:00 and 3:30. Evening presentations of **Star Death — The Birth of Black Holes** are on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. (No separate admission charge to members!)

Also free to members of the Academy is **Exploring the Skies of the Season**, each Saturday and Sunday morning at 11:00 a.m. This show is a look at the current night sky over San Francisco and is an excellent program for your entire family.

Laserium

The ever popular Laserium shows continue on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays at the Morrison Planetarium when colorful images dance on the dome in concert to music against a background of stars. There are two different shows now at the following times:

Laserium Starship:

Fridays at 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30 p.m.

Laserium Light Years:

Saturdays at 5:00, 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30 p.m.
Sundays at 5:00, 7:30 and 9:00 p.m.

Tickets for all performances are available through BASS outlets and remaining tickets go on sale at the planetarium box-office one-half hour before showtime. Ad-

Living Arts & Lectures

mission is \$3.25 for all shows. Members are reminded that this is **not** a regular planetarium show, **nor** are your planetarium passes usable for this attraction.

To highlight the new major traveling exhibit, **The Ancestors: Native Artisans of the Americas**, several demonstrations, lectures and films have been planned to be presented in the Wattis Hall of Man (WHM) and in the Morrison Auditorium (MA).

April 12

11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Lecture on Indian architecture by City College of San Francisco instructor Enrique Limosner.* (MA)

April 19 and 20

at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Film: "Basketry of the Pomo" (30 minutes). A look at the materials and techniques used by the world's most expert basketmakers. (WHM)

April 19

From 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 to 3:00

Pomo weavers, Elsie Allen, a fourth generation basketmaker and 85-year old Laura Somersall will give a live demonstration of their art and answer your questions about basketweaving. (WHM)

April 19 and 20

12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m.

An Indian Plant Walk. Join docents at the Strybing Arboretum for a tour which focuses on native plants used for basketry, medicine and food by the Californian Indians. Plan to meet at the entrance to Strybing Arboretum.

April 26

11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Lecture by Valerie Mathes, instructor at City College of San Francisco, on the role of women in Indian society.* (MA)

May 3 and 4

11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:00 to 3:30

Mayan Backstrap Weaving. Mayan Indians from Guatemala will demonstrate the ancient textile art of backstrap weaving. Slides of Mayan people, their life, customs,

and dress will be presented with accompanying dialogue.

*Lectures are part of a class offered by City College of San Francisco in cooperation with the Academy of Sciences and San Francisco Public Library to enhance the San Francisco showing of **The Ancestors: Native Artisans of the Americas**. These lectures are open to the public free of charge.

In addition to these native American programs, a very special Japanese musical event has been scheduled for Saturday, April 26 beginning at 2:00 p.m. in the Wattis Hall of Man. Musicians from the classical Ueda School of Shakuhachi and the Ikuta School of Koto will present a unique flute and zither program and you will have a chance to see a Japanese tea ceremony performed. (The entire program takes about 1½ hours.)

SNEAK PREVIEW OF A MAJOR ACADEMY EVENT !!!

Let's hear it for the California Academy of Sciences!

The National Endowment for the Arts has granted your museum a highly coveted Challenge Grant for \$400,000 to be used to increase the Academy's funds to provide for future growth of programs, expansion of the scientific departments and to offset the effect of inflation on general operations.

To meet the challenge the Academy and its members must raise 3 **new** dollars for each dollar pledged by the NEA. That means that 1.2 million dollars must be raised over the next three years. The first \$400,000 must be raised by June 30, 1980 and now comes the fun part . . .

In early April you will be receiving an invitation (separate from your **Newsletter**) to the fabulous FISH FAIR, a night of fun and games and fish and dinner and dancing and merriment and exciting auction items and more and more. Net proceeds from the FISH FAIR will be used to meet out match for the NEA grant.

Get ready for fun on a grand scale at the FISH FAIR, set for May 14, 1980.

Special Event

COME ONE . . . COME ALL

Authentic *Official*
MAGIC LANTERN EXHIBITION!

**"THE SAN FRANCISCO
EARTHQUAKE
YESTERDAY AND TODAY"**

April 17, 1980

at 8:00 p.m.

**in the
Morrison Auditorium**

FREE OF CHARGE!

This multi-media program examines one of the most studied geologic events in history and tells the complete story of the great earthquake which devastated the glorious city of San Francisco on April 18, 1906. The show lets you experience that unparalleled catastrophe which swept the city with fierce flames and left it a heap of smoldering ruins and is completely illustrated with a vast gallery of startling lantern slides including pictures of the city before and after the disaster.

"The San Francisco Earthquake Yesterday and Today" presents scientific information in an historical context and is the brainchild of Richard J. Lambert, instructor in geology at Skyline College.

(Eerie Note: This free program is presented on the anniversary eve of the 1906 earthquake.)

Meet the Departments



A new feature of the **Newsletter** beginning this month is **Meet the Departments** where you will be able to meet some of the Academy staff on a more intimate basis. This month meet Sandy Lelich, left, and Susan Douglas, the Travel and Education Department.

Sandy, a native of the Bay Area, grew up in Mill Valley and graduated from the University of California at Santa Barbara with a teaching credential and a B.A. in anthropology. Following graduation, she worked for the State of California as an archeologist studying the Chumash Indians, and later for the State of Hawaii surveying the west coast of the island of Hawaii. She then moved to San Diego and became a social directress with Pacific Far East Lines, a job that provided many adventures and great experience in the area of travel. After her move back to the Bay Area, Sandy became a volunteer in the Anthropology Department of the Academy and later was hired as Education Officer. Sandy likes camping, backpacking, swimming, reading, needlepoint and all outdoor activities. She coordinates the monthly members' meeting, plans the members' tours and programs, and works with Susan writing the Activities Calendar and planning the Living Arts and Lectures.

Susan Douglas comes to us via Wichita, Kansas and Denver where she graduated from the University of Denver with a Masters in biology and science education. She taught botany, zoology, biology and math at high school level and more recently was a teacher for the Junior Academy. She works with Sandy on all education and travel programs and coordinated the Teachers' Workshop offered in conjunction with the Ancestors exhibit. Susan and her husband and son live in Half Moon Bay and as a family enjoy backpacking and camping.

Education and Travel Notes

Several new classes and programs are on the schedule . . . details will be in your "Activities Calendar" which you should be receiving in the mail in early April. Some of the titles are:

The Visible Universe

April 1-22
7:30-9:30 p.m.

Stargazing for Backpackers

May 5-June 9
7-9 p.m.

Indians of California

May 7-28
(time to be announced)

A Minus-Tide Adventure

May 16-17
including field trip!

Darwin's Galapagos: The Enchanted Isles

May 17
9 a.m. to Noon

The World of the Hopi: A Symposium

May 24
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Pueblo Country II, Northeast Arizona

June 6-15

Once again members will have an opportunity to study in depth the ancient culture of the native Americans of Northeastern Arizona and to visit areas of spectacular scenic beauty. Highlights of this 10-day tour include the Hopi Mesas, the Hopi Cultural Center, Canyon de Chelly, Monument Valley, the Grand Canyon and the Museum of Northern Arizona. Dr. Dorothy Washburn, Chairman of the Academy's Anthropology Department and expert in the archaeology of this region leads our tour. For information, please call Gulliver's Travels at (415) 346-4400.

Alaska

July 11-26

Alaska, land of abundant wildlife and magnificent scenery is the focus of this 16-day expedition. Join Dr. and Mrs. Robert T. Orr for a cruise to the Columbia Glacier, several days visit in Mt. McKinley National Park, an exploration of Katmai National Monument with its "Valley of Ten

Thousand Smokes", and finally a three-day visit to an area of incomparable beauty, Glacier Bay National Monument. For information, please call Siemer & Hand, Ltd. at (415) 788-7186.

National Parks and Monuments of the Western United States

July, 1980

A geological exploration of the national parks and monuments of the Western United States will be the focus of this 7-day tour led by Mr. Charles Chesterman, Curator of Mineralogy. Members will fly to Twin Falls to begin their motorcoach tour of the Craters of the Moon National Monument, The Teton Range, the wonders of Yellowstone National Park and the rugged beauty of Glacier National Park. For information, please call Gulliver's Travels at (415) 346-4400.

Zambia and the Seychelles

August-September

Zambia, Livingstone's Africa and site of Victoria Falls, is the focus of this 24-day expedition. Highlights include game drives in open land rovers in Kafue National Park, a visit to Victoria Falls, a "Sundowner Cruise" on the Zambezi, and a stay in Chibembe Camp in the Luangwa Valley where participants will enjoy a 4-day walking safari and night drives guided by experienced leaders. Five days in the exotic Seychelles complete this African adventure. Led by Academy naturalist Bob Drewes. Cost is approximately \$4200 per person including air fare. For information call the Academy Travel Office at (415) 221-5100, ext. 211.

The National Treasures of Japan

September 21-October 7

The people of Japan have established a system of national "natural treasures" to preserve the natural features of their country. On this 17-day tour, members will visit several of these natural and cultural treasures. On the island of Honshu, participants will visit the sights of Tokyo, Nikko with its spectacular mountain scenery, Ago Bay's famous pearl divers and aquarium, and the classical Shinto and Buddhist shrines of Nara and Kyoto. On the northern island of Hokkaido, highlights will include

visits to several national parks, hot springs and fabulous botanical gardens. Tour is led by botanist Gladys Smith. Cost of land arrangements is \$2840, air is \$1009 at current G.I.T. rates. For information, call Bryan International at (415) 986-0967.

Sea of Cortez October 25-31

This cruise on the **Baja Explorador** is bound to be a memorable trip for those who enjoy the variety of wildlife and natural beauties of the desert environment. Cost is \$700, including air fare from Los Angeles. For information, please call the Academy Travel Office at (415) 221-5100, ext. 211.

Continued from last month

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Continued next month

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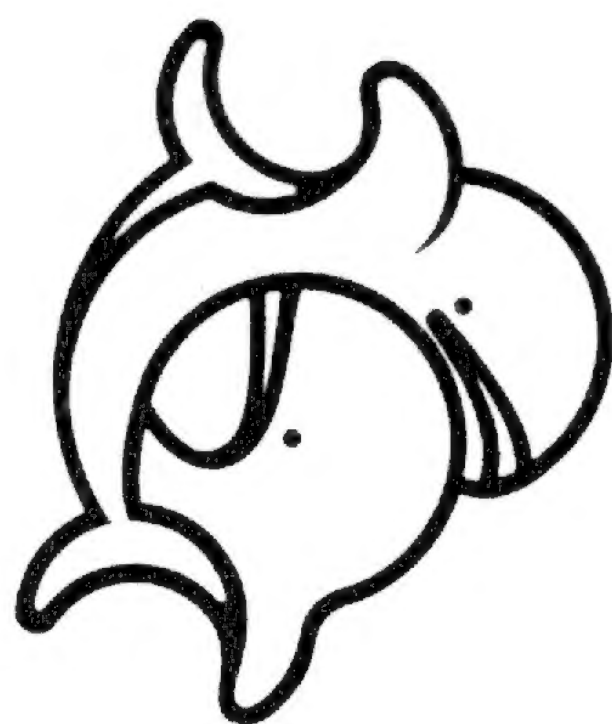
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